TABLE 7. HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN SALT LAKE-OGDEN LABOR AREA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May(p) 1986	Apr.(r) 1986	May 1985	May(p) 1986	Apr.(r) 1986	May 1985	May(p) 1986	Apr.(r) 1986	May 1985
MINING	$462.66	$442.34	$480.65	38.3	36.8	41.4	$12.08	$12.02	$11.61
CONSTRUCTION	504.70	453.47	480.53	35.0	31.8	37.6	14.42	14.26	12.78
MANUFACTURING	379.14	381.20	361.10	39.7	40.0	39.9	9.53	9.53	9.05
Durable Goods	399.84	398.11	376.69	40.8	41.0	40.9	9.80	9.71	9.21
Nondurable Goods	330.34	339.59	318.69	37.2	37.4	37.1	8.88	9.08	8.59
TRADE	237.46	234.40	235.56	31.0	30.6	31.2	7.66	7.66	7.55
Wholesale Trade	373.22	378.20	362.60	36.2	36.4	37.0	10.31	10.39	9.80
Retail Trade	189.22	181.48	189.15	29.2	28.4	29.1	6.48	6.39	6.50
AVERAGE	310.63	304.91	296.53	34.4	34.1	34.4	9.03	8.93	8.62

Note: Average hours includes hours actually worked or remunerated. Average hourly and weekly earnings include incentive and premium pay. Data may be affected by labor disputes. p = preliminary. r = revised.
Source: Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services. Prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE 8. HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN UTAH

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May(p) 1986	Apr.(r) 1986	May 1985	May(p) 1986	Apr.(r) 1986	May 1985	May(p) 1986	Apr.(r) 1986	May 1985
MINING	$598.97	$566.95	$560.68	44.5	42.5	42.8	$13.46	$13.34	$13.10
Metal Mining	517.14	517.29	548.63	39.0	39.1	41.5	13.26	13.23	13.22
Bituminous Coal Mining	610.87	610.72	658.26	39.9	39.3	41.4	15.31	15.54	15.90
CONSTRUCTION	466.72	437.14	470.30	35.6	33.6	36.8	13.11	13.01	12.78
MANUFACTURING	388.85	392.69	372.53	39.8	40.4	40.1	9.77	9.72	9.29
Durable Goods	419.09	415.91	395.43	41.7	41.8	41.8	10.05	9.95	9.46
Primary Metal Industries	627.24	581.60	610.40	41.9	40.0	43.6	14.97	14.54	14.00
Fabricated Metal Prod. & Mach.	393.39	393.12	363.34	42.9	43.2	42.2	9.17	9.10	8.61
Transportation Equipment	506.81	498.58	484.76	41.4	40.7	42.3	12.29	12.25	11.46
Nondurable Goods	325.06	340.75	317.88	35.8	37.2	36.0	9.08	9.16	8.83
Food & Kindred Products	311.71	319.50	299.74	36.5	37.9	36.2	8.54	8.43	8.28
Chemicals & Petroleum Products	563.75	593.18	553.82	43.1	44.4	43.2	13.08	13.36	12.82
TRADE	222.16	218.30	222.04	29.9	29.5	30.5	7.43	7.40	7.28
Wholesale Trade	380.46	383.82	360.01	37.3	37.3	37.0	10.20	10.29	9.73
Retail Trade	177.36	171.17	180.12	27.8	27.3	28.5	6.38	6.27	6.32
Food Stores	229.61	217.42	227.92	29.4	28.2	29.6	7.81	7.71	7.70
Other Retail	186.64	180.81	182.50	30.2	29.4	29.2	6.18	6.15	6.25
AVERAGE	307.80	305.66	300.66	34.2	34.0	34.4	9.00	8.99	8.74

Note: Average hours includes hours actually worked or remunerated. Average hourly and weekly earnings include incentive and premium pay. Data may be affected by labor disputes. p = preliminary. r = revised.
Source: Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services. Prepared in conjunction with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE 9. EMPLOYMENT SECURITY ACTIVITIES IN UTAH

	THIS YEAR			YEAR AGO		
	Forecast June '86	Preliminary May '86	Final Apr. '86	Final June '85	Final May '85	Final Apr. '85
Number of New Nonfarm Jobs Listed	8,358	7,706	7,450	7,843	9,509	9,207
Job Openings Unfilled Last Month	9,206	10,807	8,785	4,840	5,682	6,858
Total Number of Nonfarm Jobs Available	15,262	18,513	16,235	12,683	15,191	16,065
Number of New Applications for Jobs	9,175	8,425	9,100	9,994	9,131	9,598
Total Nonfarm Job Placements	3,845	4,426	5,285	5,878	6,767	6,331
Initial Claims (Key Week)	1,954	1,940	2,470	1,609	2,058	2,323
Weeks Claimed (Key Week)	12,232	13,640	14,278	10,911	11,335	13,636
Monthly Insured Unemployment Rate (Key Week)	2.13	2.40	2.52	1.98	2.09	2.51
Amount of Unemployment Compensation Paid	$6,959,000	$7,402,421	$9,192,164	$5,639,852	$6,525,088	$8,194,264

Note: All claims data include Regular UI, UCFE, and UCX, claims only.
Source: Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services.

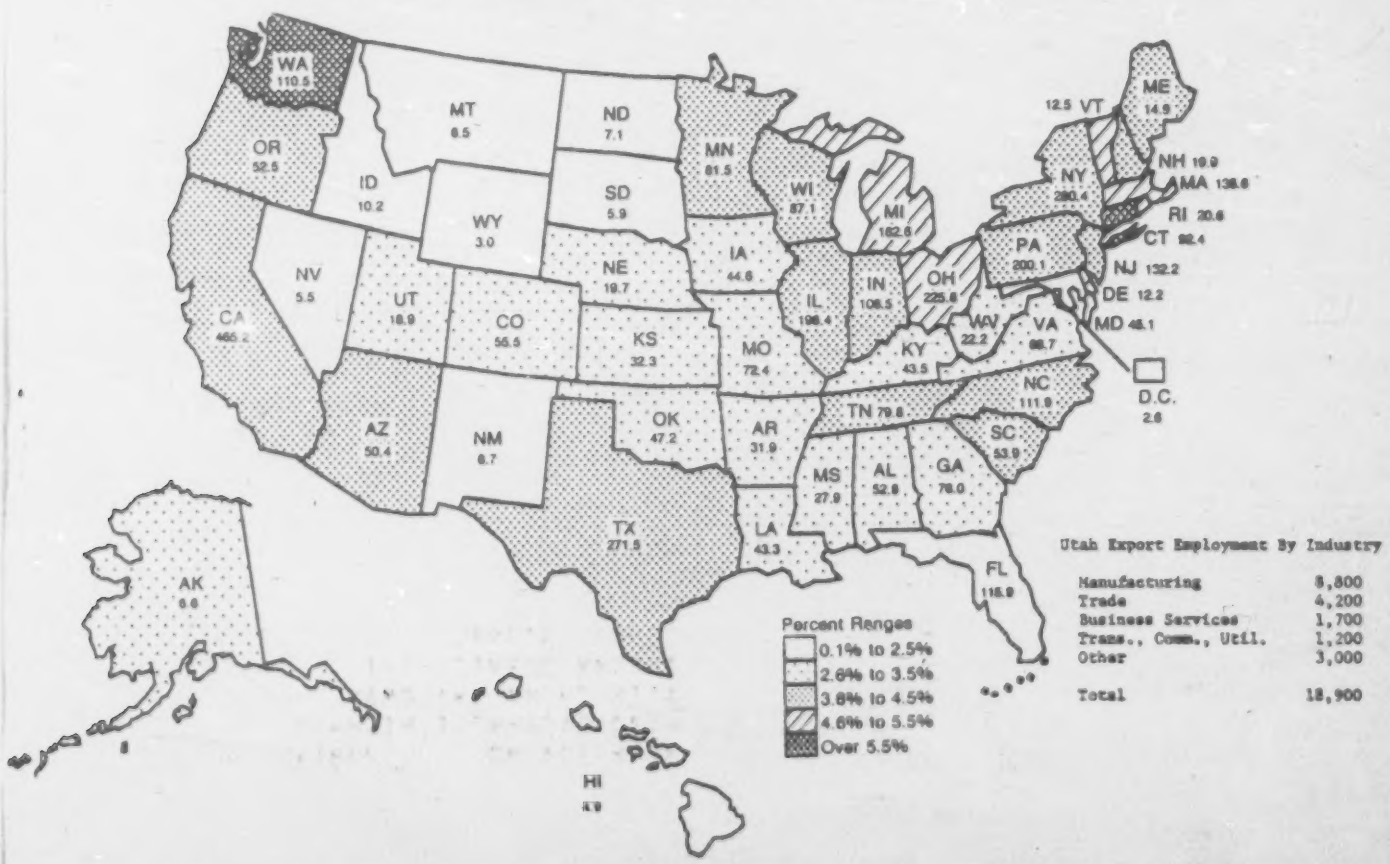
TABLE 10. CURRENT PRICE INDEXES — UNITED STATES
1967 = 100

Item	Index					% Change			
	May '86	Apr. '86	Mar. '86	Feb. '86	May '85	From Last Month	May '85 to May '86	Apr. '85 to Apr. '86	Mar. '85 to Mar. '86	Feb. '85 to Feb. '86
CONSUMER PRICES:										
ALL ITEMS (CPI-U')[1]	326.3	325.3	326.0	327.5	321.3	0.3	1.6	1.6	2.3	3.2
Food and Beverages	309.4	308.5	307.8	307.7	301.0	0.3	2.8	2.3	2.1	2.1
Food at Home	302.1	301.5	301.2	301.5	296.2	0.2	2.0	1.3	0.9	1.0
Housing	358.5	358.0	357.0	356.5	348.5	0.1	2.9	3.5	3.6	3.8
Rent Residential	278.4	277.9	275.0	273.7	262.6	0.2	6.0	6.7	6.1	5.9
Fuel and Other Util.	382.5	381.8	385.5	390.0	393.0	0.2	—2.7	—1.8	—0.7	0.9
Medical Care	429.7	428.0	425.8	422.3	399.5	0.4	7.6	7.5	7.4	7.2
Apparel and Upkeep	206.4	207.3	206.3	204.1	205.3	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.5	1.1
Transportation	305.7	303.3	309.6	319.2	321.4	0.8	—4.9	—5.2	—2.2	1.6
Gasoline	288.7	278.6	307.7	350.8	381.4	3.6	—24.3	—25.5	—14.5	—0.2
Energy[2]	367.6	361.8	381.3	408.9	431.7	1.6	—14.8	—14.8	—8.5	—0.6
PRODUCER PRICES:										
ALL COMMODITIES	299.2	297.9	300.3	304.7	309.9	0.4	—3.5	—3.7	—2.7	—1.5
Finished Goods	289.0	286.9	288.1	292.3	294.2	0.7	—1.7	—2.1	—1.4	—0.1
Intermediate Materials	306.8	307.0	309.4	313.5	319.9	—0.1	—4.1	—3.9	—2.9	—1.6
Crude Materials	278.9	272.8	280.9	290.5	310.0	2.2	—9.8	—12.3	—10.1	—8.7

[1] Consumer Price Index — All Urban Consumers.
[2] Energy is a special group index consisting of prices paid for the following: Fuel Oil, Coal, Bottled Gas, Electricity, Gasoline, and Motor Oil and Coolant. (It is not one of the components of the "All Items" as its subcomponents are already included.)
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Employment Related to Manufactured Exports for States: 1983

(Showing estimated export-related employment as a percentage of civilian employment. Numbers are export-related employment in thousands)



Utah Export Employment By Industry

Manufacturing	8,800
Trade	4,200
Business Services	1,700
Trans., Comm., Util.	1,200
Other	3,000
Total	18,900

SOURCE: 1983 Annual Survey of Manufactures, Origin of Exports of Manufactured Products, U.S. Department of Commerce, March 1986.

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UTAH LABOR MARKET REPORT

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Floyd G. Astin, Administrator

Larry K. Wardle, Director
Labor Market Information Services

Ray L. Sargent, Supervising Economist

Lecia Parks, Labor Market Economist

CONGRESSIONAL 2
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Utah LABOR MARKET REPORT

JULY 1986

published August 1986

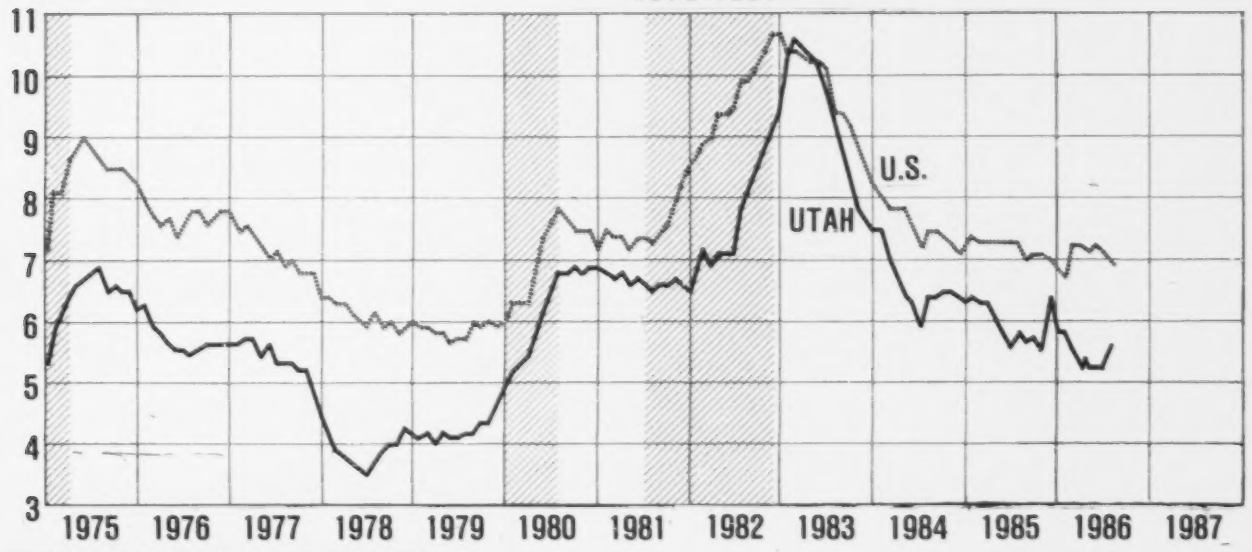
UP THE DOWN STAIRCASE?

It happened. We said it might. Utah's unemployment rate rose noticeably in July. Sluggish job growth and layoffs finally left their mark on the State's level of joblessness. At 5.6 percent, the July 1986 seasonally adjusted unemployment rate registered four-tenths of a percentage point higher than the June figure of 5.2 percent. Although Utah's unemployment rate has hovered just above the five percent mark for the past four months, this increase doesn't appear particularly alarming. First, by most definitions Utah remains in what economists term "full employment." Second, the State's rate falls about one and one-half points below the national average. Third, the current rate measures two-tenths of a percentage point below the year-ago figure. On a seasonally adjusted basis, 41,700 individuals were out of work in July 1986 compared to 41,800 the previous year. And finally, on an **unadjusted** basis, no change occurred in the jobless rate from the previous month. The July rate may just be a momentary aberration. The layoffs may be over, job expansion may accelerate.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Feature Article: New Hires, A Measure of the Dynamic Nature of the Labor Market.
- CPI and ACCRA Cost of Living Indexes.
- Utah and U.S. Labor Force Participation Rates.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, UTAH AND THE U.S.
(Seasonally Adjusted)
1975-1987



Shaded area represents U.S. recession period determined by National Bureau of Economic Research.

Source: Utah Department of Employment Security

On the other hand, this increase in unemployment may be a portent of things to come. Right at the moment, the economy doesn't seem to be putting out any clear signals. The Dow goes down, the Dow goes up. Inflation and interest rates have fallen, but the U.S. has narrowed the trade gap only slightly. Housing construction fares well, while nonresidential building dwindles. The goods-producing sector suffers a mini-recession, but service-producing jobs continue to swell. All in all, these ambiguous indicators (and numerous others) seem to point to somewhat slower growth but not a full-blown recession, and probably increased expansion toward the end of the year.

NO BOOM IN NONFARM JOBS

As mentioned, expansion in Utah's nonagricultural employment during the first half of this year didn't exactly boom. The word "sluggish" might even bear repeating. Between July 1985 and July 1986 employment increased by only 2.2 percent, down notably from the 1985 annual average growth of nearly four percent. In numerical terms, the State has garnered 13,900 new positions over the past year.

Again, the goods producing sector took the brunt of the employment losses. Oil/gas extraction and primary metals manufacturing have sustained the hardest hits since last July. Jobs in both industries have declined by about 20 percent in comparison with last year. Even transportation equipment manufacturing (the aerospace industry), formerly the one bright spot in the durable goods sector, suffered from a minor job loss. Metal mining used to be included in the list of industries which had lost more than 20 percent of their work force. However, year-to-year employment losses in metal mining have declined in recent months as the anniversary of the Kennecott Minerals Corporation shutdown has passed. Moreover, Kennecott has announced plans to call 2,300 employees back to work by July 1987. Employment fluctuations persist in the remaining mining sector — coal. However, no outstanding changes in coal mining employment have occurred recently. Basically, industries classified as job "losers" (with the exception of oil/gas extraction and primary metals) have experienced job declines in the one to eight percent range. Not drastic employment casualties, but casualties nonetheless.

But, the gains more than offset the losses. Service producing sectors continue to show the highest levels of employment growth. Finance/insurance/real estate has added 2,300 jobs to its payrolls since July 1985, an increase of 7.4 percent. Retail trade jobs are up by 5,000, resulting in a year-to-year growth rate of 4.5 percent. Services, as usual, made the largest numeric gains adding 7,100 new jobs (a 5.7 percent increase) to the Utah economy.

I WANT MY CPS!

Often the labor force is referred to in rather amorphous terms. We tend to forget it is made up of individuals, or that people hold those nonfarm jobs. Fortunately, every year the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) publishes the characteristics of Utah's working-age populace as determined by the nationwide Current Population Survey (CPS). From these figures, labor market economists (who love to get to the bottom of an interesting statistic) discover more about those who are out in the trenches earning a living. While the CPS doesn't quite supply everything we've always wanted to know about the Utah labor force (and weren't afraid to ask), it provides a good start.

One of the more interesting CPS statistics is the labor force participation rate. What is a participation rate, you ask? It is that portion of the civilian noninstitutional population, 16 years and older, either employed or looking for a job. In Utah, the male 1985 participation rate registered 81.3 percent; the female, 56.4 percent. For both sexes, these rates measure higher than the national averages (5.0 and 1.9 percentage points respectively). Since you now know there's difference in labor force participation between Utah and the rest of the nation, let's account for it. In addition to the famous Utah work ethic, youth activity provides the main reason for the State's high labor force participation rates. Not only do Utah's youth account for a higher proportion of the population than in the nation generally, but Utah teenagers are much more likely to be members of the labor force. The 1985 participation rate for Utahns, 16 through 19 years old, registered 70.5 percent compared with a national average of only 54.5 percent. If you don't have a calculator handy that's a difference of 16.0 percentage points —quite a significant difference. Utah's high youth participation rate also tends to inflate our unemployment rate relative to the rest of the nation as teenagers invariably experience the highest joblessness.

Men are most likely to be members of the labor force between the ages of 35 and 44 (95.8 participation). On the other hand, women in the 20 to 24 year-old age bracket are most likely to participate (74.8 percent). However, male participation rates averaged higher than women's in every age category. Also, even though Utah's **total** female participation rate surpasses the national average, from ages 25 to 44 Utah women fall behind. What about marital status? Not surprisingly, married men showed the highest male participation rates (82.4 percent). The highest female participation rate occurred for single, never married women (73.6 percent). Incidentally, 54.2 percent of the married women in the State were working or looking for work in 1985. For both sexes, the group comprised of widowed/separated/divorced individuals showed the **lowest** participation rate.

THE WRAP-UP

Utah's unemployment increased this month, but it remains within the bounds of economic health. However, several areas (particularly the rural counties) and industries in the State still struggle with depressed conditions. Moreover, job growth has slowed significantly during the first half of 1986. If Utah is to maintain its low unemployment rate, job growth must pick up.

Lecia Parks, Labor Market Economist

NEW HIRES: A MEASURE OF THE DYNAMIC NATURE OF THE LABOR MARKET

Each day in Utah an average of at least 1,100 individuals are added to employers' payrolls. During 1985, over 404,000 of these "new hire" transactions occurred in the State. Considering the fact that there are about 625,000 jobs in Utah, 404,000 new hires represent a tremendous amount of job market activity. Does this mean Utah employers replace two-thirds of their workers every year? The numbers appear to support that possibility. New hires represent labor turnover. Every time an individual is put onto the payroll of a firm a "new hire" is counted. In 1985, the 404,000 level of new hires reflects the flow of job vacancies throughout the Utah economy. However, the count of new hires is not a pure measure of turnover. New companies and existing firms that are growing also add new jobs that contribute to counts of hires (nonagricultural employment grew by 23,300 between 1984 and 1985). Also, the new hires measure does not directly account for all the job opening activity within companies but only those openings that result when a new employee is added to the payroll. Usually a new hire is the last event in a series of job transactions that occur within a company. From the standpoint of measuring total labor market transactions, new hires produce a conservative estimate. This makes the measure even more interesting because it is so large.

Nearly 70 percent of all new hires in 1985 occurred in just three industry sectors: Construction, Trade, and Services. Because of the short-term duration of building projects it is not surprising that Construction produces many new hires. The same workers will be "new hires" for each construction job if they change employers. Construction activity is also affected by the weather which limits the duration of employment. During 1985, the Construction industry accounted for 5.7 percent of total nonagricultural employment in Utah but claimed 11.8 percent of total new hires. In terms of actual numbers, Construction employment was 35,510, with new hires of 47,825.

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT AND NEW HIRES BY INDUSTRY IN UTAH 1985

Industry	Nonagricultural Employment		New Hires	
	Annual Average	Percent Distribution	Total	Percent Distribution
Total	624,387	100.0	404,356	100.0
Mining	9,738	1.6	5,818	1.4
Construction	35,510	5.7	47,825	11.8
Manufacturing	93,999	15.1	42,191	10.4
Transportation, Communication, Public Utilities	37,013	5.9	15,064	3.7
Trade	147,920	23.7	124,329	30.7
Finance, Insurance Real Estate	31,059	5.0	14,674	3.6
Services	131,342	21.0	108,750	26.9
Government	137,806	22.1	45,705	11.3

SOURCE: Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information (LMI) Services.

The Trade industry experienced the largest number of new hires among all eight major sectors with 124,329. Thirty percent of all new hires occurred in this industry, which accounted for employment of 147,920 or 23.7 percent of total employment. The Trade industry has a tremendous amount of new hiring activity, a substantial portion of which is turnover. Seasonal swings in the demand for goods in the wholesale and retail trade environment contribute to the volume of new hires. April through December—the prime buying season—is the largest new hire period for the Trade industry.

The Services industry, which includes businesses such as hotels/motels, personal and business services, entertainment, and health services, accounted for 26.9 percent, or 108,750 of the 404,000 new hires. Services, with employment of 131,342, claimed 21 percent of all employment. Much of the new hiring activity in Services is affected by the seasonal demands of tourism and travel.

Of the remaining five industry sectors, Mining contributed 1.4 percent or 5,818 new hires, Manufacturing 10.4 percent or 42,191, Transportation/Communication/Public Utilities 3.7 percent or 15,066, Finance/Insurance/Real Estate 3.6 percent or 14,674, and Government 11.3 percent or 45,705. All of these sectors, with the exception of Mining, experienced typical mid-year (April through September) expansion in the number of new hires. Mining, when analyzed over the last four years, did not show a consistent seasonal pattern in hiring activity as the demand for mining output is more sensitive to international economic conditions.

New hiring action is concentrated where the economic activity is concentrated. In fact, Salt Lake and Tooele counties claimed 53 percent — 214,567 — of all new hires in 1985. The Weber-Morgan area accounted for 39,409 or 9.7 percent, and Davis County 25,377 or 6.3 percent. The Mountainland District (Summit, Utah and Wasatch counties) captured 14.2 percent, with 57,339 of the 404,000 total new hires in Utah. With the exception of the Bear River Service Delivery Area with 19,176 (4.7 percent), each of the other districts in the State claimed less than 10,000 new hires during 1985.

In conclusion, this brief discussion of new hires points out that the job market is not static, rather it is a teeming caldron of activity reflecting the dynamic and mobile nature of the work force in our State.

John T. Mathews, Labor Market Economist

NEW HIRES IN UTAH
BY DISTRICT
1985

District	Number	New Hires Percent
Total	404,356	100.0
Bear River	19,176	4.7
Weber-Morgan	39,409	9.7
Davis County	25,377	6.3
Wasatch Front South	214,567	53.1
Mountainland	57,339	14.2
Central (Six County)	12,069	3.0
Southwestern	16,822	4.2
Uintah Basin	9,757	2.4
Southeastern	9,840	2.4

SOURCE: Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information (LMI) Services.

UNITED STATES CONSUMER PRICE INDEX — ALL ITEMS
1967 = 100

Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual Average	% Change from Prior Year
1967	98.6	98.7	98.9	99.1	99.4	99.7	100.2	100.5	100.7	101.0	101.3	101.6	100.0	2.8
1968	102.0	102.3	102.8	103.1	103.4	104.0	104.5	104.8	105.1	105.7	106.1	106.4	104.2	4.2
1969	106.7	107.1	108.0	108.7	109.0	109.7	110.2	110.7	111.2	111.6	112.2	112.9	109.8	5.4
1970	113.3	113.9	114.5	115.2	115.7	116.3	116.7	116.9	117.5	118.1	118.5	119.1	116.3	6.0
1971	119.2	119.4	119.8	120.2	120.8	121.5	121.8	122.1	122.2	122.4	122.6	123.1	121.3	4.3
1972	123.2	123.8	124.0	124.3	124.7	125.0	125.5	125.7	126.2	126.6	126.9	127.3	125.3	3.3
1973	127.7	128.6	129.8	130.7	131.5	132.4	132.7	135.1	135.5	136.6	137.6	138.5	133.1	6.2
1974	139.7	141.5	143.1	143.9	145.5	146.9	148.0	149.9	151.7	153.0	154.3	155.4	147.7	11.0
1975	156.1	157.2	157.8	158.6	159.3	160.6	162.3	162.8	163.6	164.6	165.6	166.3	161.2	9.1
1976	166.7	167.1	167.5	168.2	169.2	170.1	171.1	171.9	172.6	173.3	173.8	174.3	170.5	5.8
1977	175.3	177.1	178.2	179.6	180.6	181.8	182.6	183.3	184.0	184.5	185.4	186.1	181.5	6.5
1978	186.9	188.3	189.8	191.3	193.2	195.1								
-U	187.2	188.4	189.8	191.5	193.3	195.3	196.7	197.8	199.3	200.9	202.0	202.9	195.4	7.7
-W	187.1	188.4	189.7	191.4	193.3	195.3	196.7	197.7	199.1	200.7	201.8	202.9	195.3	7.6
1979-U	204.7	207.1	209.1	211.5	214.1	216.6	218.9	221.1	223.4	225.4	227.5	229.9	217.4	11.3
-W	204.7	207.1	209.3	211.8	214.3	216.9	219.4	221.5	223.7	225.6	227.6	230.0	217.7	11.5
1980-U	233.2	236.4	239.8	242.5	244.9	247.6	247.8	249.4	251.7	253.9	256.2	258.4	246.8	13.5
-W	233.3	236.5	239.9	242.6	245.1	247.8	248.0	249.6	251.9	254.1	256.4	258.7	247.0	13.5
1981-U	260.5	263.2	265.1	266.8	269.0	271.3	274.4	276.5	279.3	279.9	280.7	281.5	272.4	10.4
-W	260.7	263.5	265.2	266.8	269.1	271.4	274.6	276.5	279.1	279.7	280.4	281.1	272.3	10.2
1982-U	282.5	283.4	283.1	284.3	287.1	290.6	292.2	292.8	293.3	294.1	293.6	292.4	289.1	6.1
-W	282.1	282.9	282.5	283.7	286.5	290.1	291.8	292.4	292.8	293.6	293.2	292.0	288.6	6.0
1983-U	293.1	293.2	293.4	295.5	297.1	298.1	299.3	300.3	301.8	302.6	303.1	303.5	298.4	3.2
-W	292.1	292.3	293.0	294.9	296.3	297.2	298.2	299.5	300.8	301.3	301.4	301.5	297.4	3.0
1984-U	305.2	306.6	307.3	308.8	309.7	310.7	311.7	313.0	314.5	315.3	315.3	315.5	311.1	4.3
-W	302.7	303.3	303.3	304.1	305.4	306.2	307.5	310.3	312.1	312.2	311.9	312.2	307.6	3.4
1985-U	316.1	317.4	318.8	320.1	321.3	322.3	322.8	323.5	324.5	325.5	326.6	327.4	322.2	3.6
-W	312.6	313.5	315.3	316.7	317.8	318.7	319.1	319.6	320.5	321.3	322.6	323.4	318.4	3.5
1986-U	328.4	327.5	326.0	325.3	326.3	327.9								
-W	324.3	323.2	321.4	320.4	321.4	323.0								

-U = CPI for all urban consumers.
-W = CPI for urban wage earners and clerical workers.
Source: Prepared by the Utah Department of Employment Security from tabulations published by Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor.

ACCRA* COMPOSITE COST-OF-LIVING COMPARISONS FOR SELECTED METROPOLITAN AREAS

FIRST QUARTER 1986

Component Index Weights:	100%	17%	22%	11%	13%	7%	30%
City	All Items	Groceries	Housing	Utilities	Transportation	Health Care	Miscellaneous
U.S. Average	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Salt Lake City, Utah	**101.5**	**103.3**	**96.5**	**87.3**	**109.0**	**92.7**	**108.0**
Provo, Utah	**89.4**	**99.0**	**73.1**	**80.7**	**92.1**	**94.6**	**96.7**
Western States							
Phoenix, Arizona	107.7	102.2	117.2	102.8	104.9	121.8	103.6
Los Angeles, California	112.3	95.0	150.4	61.2	98.4	141.8	112.0
San Diego, California	122.7	102.2	176.7	77.6	127.7	142.2	104.4
Denver, Colorado	108.0	106.9	129.8	76.9	119.1	110.4	98.7
Billings, Montana	106.1	106.1	119.8	88.3	93.4	115.4	106.0
Reno-Sparks, Nevada	109.3	105.1	121.3	98.7	105.4	118.2	106.5
Albuquerque, New Mexico	104.4	108.5	113.3	86.3	105.0	111.5	100.4
Portland, Oregon	107.3	112.8	103.8	73.1	118.3	142.6	106.2
Tacoma, Washington	104.2	108.1	110.5	64.1	102.3	136.1	105.4
Casper, Wyoming	98.7	102.5	88.0	94.4	97.2	116.6	102.6
Other Areas							
Indianapolis, Indiana	98.9	101.2	95.7	98.3	110.8	99.1	95.1
New Orleans, Louisiana	98.0	92.9	98.9	106.0	103.5	101.6	94.1
St. Louis, Missouri	98.2	92.7	100.0	97.3	102.3	103.5	97.2
New York, New York	142.0	109.4	186.9	199.9	115.8	161.2	113.3
Houston, Texas	104.7	105.3	85.9	122.8	105.8	110.3	109.7
Highest City	142.0 New York, NY	114.1 Marshall, TX	186.9 New York, NY	199.9 New York, NY	127.7 San Diego, CA	161.2 New York, NY	114.4 Seattle, WA
Lowest City	89.4 Provo/Orem, UT	87.5 Canton, OH	72.4 Gadsden, AL	51.6 Seattle, WA	76.4 Asheville, NC	74.3 Fayetteville, AR	89.3 Syracuse, NY

Note: These indexes give a "reasonably accurate" measurement of intercity cost-of-living differencs. They measure relative price levels in participating cities, as compared with the national average of 100, and are a comparison of prices at a single point in time. They do not measure inflation (price changes through time). Percentage differences between cities should not be considered as exact measures. Spreads of three or fewer index whole numbers in the All Items index do not represent statistically significant differences and may not show which city is more expensive. Differences of more than three whole numbers in the All Items index can be considered to represent actual inter-city differences in costs of consumer goods and services; but the differences should be considered a reasonable indication rather than a precise measure of the extent of difference.

Source: *American Chamber of Commerce Researchers Association.